

## **RESOURCES for AGING**

E-Newsletter of the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA)

**August 1, 2007 (No. 50)**

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### **OSA EVENTS/MEETINGS**

#### **OSA/Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Directors**

The next meeting will be held 1:30 p.m. **August 14** in Conference Room 3B on the third floor, 7109 W. Saginaw Highway in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Jan Bowlin** at OSA (517/241-3864), e-mail [bowlinj1@michigan.gov](mailto:bowlinj1@michigan.gov) or TDD 517/373-4096. You also can call **Mary Ablan** at the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (AAAAM) at 517/886-1227, or e-mail [ablan@iserv.net](mailto:ablan@iserv.net).

#### **Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA)**

The next two meeting will be held 10:00 a.m. **August 17** at the Holiday Inn Lansing West Conference Center, 7501 W. Saginaw Highway in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Cindy Albrecht** at OSA (517/335-4016), e-mail [albrechtc@michigan.gov](mailto:albrechtc@michigan.gov) or TDD 517/373-4096.

#### **State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC)**

No SAC meetings are scheduled at this time. The June and August SAC meetings have been canceled due to ongoing concerns regarding the state budget.

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## AGING NETWORK NEWS/RESOURCES

### OSA Receives Disease Prevention Grant

OSA has been awarded a multi-year grant to prevent disease by empowering older people to take more control of their health through evidence-based disease prevention programs. The grant will provide \$250,000/year for three years.

Nationwide, these funds will be used to combat chronic illness by establishing public/private partnerships and statewide systems which will be necessary to support the ongoing implementation of evidence-based disease prevention programs that have been effective at empowering older people to take control of their health and reduce their risk of disease and disability.

In Michigan, the goal of this funding will be to provide four area agencies on aging (AAAs) with funding to start community coalitions that will implement evidence-based disease prevention activities in their regions of the state to reach the maximum number of older adults who are at risk.

OSA will partner with the four AAAs and the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) to conduct the Stanford Disease Self-Management Program (PATH) and other programs that address balance, physical activity and fall prevention.

“Chronic disease is a major health concern in Michigan because of the growing number of older adults and their families who are affected, and it is easier and less costly to prevent chronic illness rather than treating it after it happens,” observes OSA Director **Sharon Gire**.

Preliminary data from the 2005 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS) reveals that 60% of the state’s residents over age 59 reported they have doctor-diagnosed arthritis, while 18% reported having hypertension, and 15.6% reported having cardiovascular disease.

The four AAAs receiving funding from this grant are the Detroit Area Agency on Aging (Wayne County), the Region 2 Area Agency on Aging (Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee Counties), the Valley Area Agency on Aging (Genesee, Lapeer and Shiawassee Counties) and the Region IX Area Agency on Aging (2 Counties in Northeast Michigan).

The grant will focus on services, rather than administration. While each participating AAA will receive \$56,250, no more than \$9,375 can be used for administrative costs. At least 75% of the total grant must go to aging network service providers to use at the local level. Also, each AAA must contribute in-kind assistance worth \$5,000, and they can use their Older Americans Act Title III-D monies to enhance their efforts.

OSA will retain \$25,000 from the grant to administer the program. This will include master trainings, leader trainings, an annual conference, and program evaluations.

For more information, call **Sherri King** at OSA (517/373-4092) or e-mail [kings1@michigan.gov](mailto:kings1@michigan.gov).

## **Older Adults Brace for Heat Waves**

Heat waves are silent and invisible killers. When Michigan experiences uncomfortable heat, older adults are at risk.

According to the US Administration on Aging (AoA), hot weather and dehydration are common causes of heat-related illnesses. They can be serious, and they are preventable.

“Older adults are particularly vulnerable to heat-related illnesses, especially those who are homebound, disabled, live alone or lack air conditioning or cooling equipment,” says Sharon Gire, Director of the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging.

During a typical year, heat waves kill more Americans than all other natural disasters combined. In 1995 more than 700 Chicago residents perished during a severe heat wave in which temperatures topped 100 degrees for two days. A majority of them were old, alone or poor.

Heat illnesses can be prevented or minimized in several ways. Dress for the weather. Wear loose-fitting, lightweight clothing. Drink plenty of liquids such as water or fruit and vegetable juices. Rest frequently and seek shade when possible.

Avoid hot, crowded places. If fans or air conditioners are not available, open windows at night. Cover windows when they are in direct sunlight, and keep curtains, shades or blinds drawn during the day.

In addition, spend at least two hours/day in an air-conditioned building such as a shopping mall, movie theater, public library or senior center. Limit outside exercise, and pay attention to weather reports about temperature, humidity and heat-related air pollution.

Have the person lie down in a cool place, and elevate the person's feet about 12 inches. Apply cool, wet cloths, cool water or cold compresses to the person's skin and use a fan to lower the body temperature. Also find beverages, cool water or salted water for the person to sip.

For muscle cramps, massage the affected muscles gently but firmly until they relax. However, do not give the person medications used to treat fever, salt tablets, or liquids that contain alcohol or caffeine.

If the person has bluish lips and fingernails, starts having seizures, or loses consciousness, call 9-1-1 and administer first aid accordingly. Also call 9-1-1 in the event of a heat emergency, such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion or heatstroke that may involve profuse sweating, fatigue, thirst or muscle cramps.

Because some older adults and their caregivers cannot afford to run their air conditioners, they should learn about programs that assist with paying energy bills for cooling.

One energy assistance program is called the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). It pays a portion of energy bills for eligible low income persons. For information on how and where to apply for LIHEAP, go to [www.energynear.org](http://www.energynear.org) or

call the National Energy Assistance Referral (NEAR) project toll-free at 866/674-6327.

Check also with area agencies on aging and senior centers. For example, the Gratiot County Commission on Aging (CoA) in Ithaca has air conditioners that can be borrowed and placed in the homes of older adults for the summer. They are funded by a grant from the Gratiot County Community Foundation. For more information, call 989/875-5246.

The AoA has developed a Fact Sheet that contains useful information about ways to prevent heat-related illnesses. To download a copy, go to [www.aoa.gov](http://www.aoa.gov) and click on "Feature, How to Lower the Risk of Heat-Related Illnesses."

For additional materials, go to <http://medlineplus.gov>, the website of the National Library of Medicine, and type in "heat illness" (available also in Spanish), or to [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov), the website of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and type in "extreme heat aging" (available in nine languages).

Also go to [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov), the website of the Centers for Disease Control and type in "extreme heat," or to [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov), the website of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and type in "extreme heat," or to [www.aafp.org](http://www.aafp.org), the website of the American Academy of Family Physicians, and type in "heat exhaustion."

### **Center Establishes Senior Transportation Website**

The National Center on Senior Transportation (NCST) has announced the start of a new website for senior transportation. It is for the advancement of transportation options for older adults who wish to live more independently in their own communities.

To access the website, go to [www.seniortransportation.net](http://www.seniortransportation.net). It contains information and resources, including announcements, facts, tips, publications, special events and technical assistance for the aging and human services communities, as well as for transit providers, older adults and their caregivers.

This website is sponsored and maintained by the NCST in partnership with Easter Seals, Inc. and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A). Other team members include the Community Transportation Association of America, the National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA), the American Society on Aging (ASA) and the Beverly Foundation.

### **Michigan to Receive Funding for Emergency Response**

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will provide Michigan with \$26,992,552 for public health preparedness and emergency response.

It is part of another \$896.7 million HHS will award states and territories to improve their response to public health emergencies, in particular pandemic influenza and infectious diseases.

The funding also will enable state and local public health agencies, as well as territorial and tribal public health jurisdictions, to build upon their abilities to respond to other hazards such as terrorism and poisoning from chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear events.

Part of this funding, or \$5.4 million, is specifically allocated for Michigan and other states bordering Canada and Mexico (including Great Lakes States) for the development and improvement of a program to provide effective detection, investigation and reporting of urgent infectious disease cases.

For more information, go to [www.hhs.gov/news](http://www.hhs.gov/news), or contact Seve Betterly at OSA (517/373-4089) or e-mail [betterlys@michigan.gov](mailto:betterlys@michigan.gov).

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### NEW EVENTS/MEETINGS ADDED

**Lifespan Interventions to Help Older Clients Transform Problems into Opportunities for Growth**, a seminar with CEUs for social workers sponsored by Clinical Training and Ann Arbor Consultation Services **August 2** at the Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites in **Ann Arbor**, and **August 3** at the Hampton Inn & Suites in **Sterling Heights**. For more information, go to [www.clinicaltrainingceus.com](http://www.clinicaltrainingceus.com) or call 734/996-9111, ext. 235.

**Fall Prevention**, an educational presentation sponsored by District Health Department #4 **August 6** at the Alpena Senior Citizens Center in **Alpena**. For more information, call 989/356-3585.

**AARP 55 Alive**, sponsored by AARP **August 8-9** at the North Berrien Senior Center in **Coloma** to tune up driving skills and update knowledge of the rules of the road. For more information, call 269/468-3366.

**Greatest Garage Sale**, a fund-raiser sponsored by the Portage Senior Center **August 10-11** at the senior center in **Portage** with all proceeds going for the center's programs. Donations of all kinds, except for clothing, are welcome. For more information, call 269/329-4555.

**Brain Aerobics**, a free seminar sponsored by the Cass County Council on Aging (CoA) **August 13** at the CoA in **Cassopolis**, and **August 14** at the Lincoln Center in **Dowagiac**. For more information, call 269/445-8110.

**Caregiver Support: Accessing and Utilizing Community Resources**, a free seminar sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association, Greater Michigan Chapter, East Central Division and funded by a grant from the Valley Area Agency on Aging **August 14** at the Lapeer Regional Medical Center in **Lapeer** and **September 11** at Stoney Creek Village in **Owosso** to provide information and valuable tools on how to cope with specific challenges faced during the disease process. For more information or to register, call 810/720-2791.

**Building Caregiver Skills**, sponsored by Michigan Great Lakes Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association **August 14, 21 and 28** at the Portage Senior Center in **Portage** for those caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease. For more information, call 269/342-1482.

**Senior Citizen's Day at the UP State Fair**, sponsored by the State Fair **August 15** at the fairgrounds in **Escanaba**, featuring exhibitors, games, a free Ice Cream Social, and

a Wellness Fair under the Grand Stand. For more information, call 906/786-4011.

**Health Fair & Blood Drive**, sponsored by the Midland County Council on Aging (CoA) **August 16** in the Senior Services Building at the CoA in **Midland**, featuring useful health information and a blood drive. For more information, call 989/633-3700.

**30th Annual Senior Picnic/Health Awareness Day**, sponsored by the Antrim County Commission on Aging **August 16** at Richardi Park in **Bellaire**, featuring food, music, vendors, bingo and raffles. For more information, call 231/533-8703.

**AARP Driver Safety Classes**, sponsored by the AARP **August 16-17** or **August 18** at the Alpena Senior Citizens Center in **Alpena** to help drivers age 50 and older remain safe on today's roads. For more information, call 989/356-3585.

**Senior Day at the Berrien County Youth Fair**, sponsored by the North Berrien Senior Center **August 17** in the USA Building at the Berrien County Fairgrounds in **Berrien Springs**. For more information, call 269/468-3366.

**Adult Abuse and Neglect Prevention Training**, a training seminar sponsored by the Gratiot Commission on Aging (CoA) **August 17** at the CoA in **Ithaca** for direct care access employees, including housekeeping, laundry, dietary and management staff, and foster care providers and workers. This educational activity also has been approved for four nursing contact hours by the Michigan Nurses Association. For more information, call 989/415-7973.

**Shift Your Attitude: Cope Better with Diabetes**, sponsored by Project Enhance Wellness and the Portage Senior Center **August 17** at the senior center in **Portage**. For more information, call 269/329-4555.

**Michigan Senior Olympics 2007 Summer Games**, sponsored by the Michigan Senior Olympics **August 6-12** at 19 locations such as schools, parks and athletic clubs in **Oakland County**. For more information, go to [www.michiganseniorolympics.org](http://www.michiganseniorolympics.org) or call toll-free 800/400-8161.

**Groundbreaking Ceremony for Alpena Village**, a local nonprofit retirement community, sponsored by Lutheran Homes of Michigan and Presbyterian Villages of Michigan **August 21** with shuttle transportation from Immanuel Lutheran Church in **Alpena**. For more information, call 989/356-3585.

**Annual Prime Time Rummage Sale**, sponsored by the East Lansing Seniors' Program **August 23-25** at the Hannah Community Center in **East Lansing** with all proceeds going for the seniors' program operating budget. For more information, call 517/337-1113.

**Motivational Interviewing Evidence-Based Interventions for Behavioral Change**, a seminar with CEUs for social workers (for example, to help them reduce client resistance to following care plans) sponsored by Clinical Training and Ann Arbor Consultation Services **August 23** at the Holiday Inn South Convention Center in **Lansing**, **August 24** at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites in **Farmington Hills** and **October 12** at the Holiday Inn Select in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, go to [www.clinicaltrainingceus.com](http://www.clinicaltrainingceus.com) or call 734/996-9111, ext. 235.



**CoA Annual Cookout**, sponsored by the Cass County Council on Aging (CoA) for the whole family **August 24** at the Edward Lowe Foundation in **Cassopolis**, featuring the CoA band, hay rides, games and door prizes. Food and beverages will be provided. For more information, call toll-free 800/323-0390 or 269/445-8110.

**Senior Day at the 2007 Michigan State Fair and 2007 Senior Citizen of the Year Awards**, sponsored by OSA and the Michigan State Fair **August 27** at the fairgrounds in **Detroit**, featuring free admission for older adults, age 62 and older, as well as exhibits, live entertainment, and free donuts, orange juice and raffle tickets. For more information, call 313/369-8310.

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Open House**, sponsored by the Manistique Senior Citizen Center **September 6** at the senior citizen center in **Manistique**, featuring local talent, door prizes, raffles and Belinda's famous BBQ ribs with all the fixings. For more information, call 906/341-5923.

**Senior Picnic & Caregivers Expo**, sponsored by the Hillsdale Senior Center **September 7** at Perennial Park in **Hillsdale**. For more information, call toll-free 800/479-3348 or 517/437-2422.

**Festival Dinner & Raffle**, sponsored by the Presque Isle County Council on Aging **September 8** at St. Casimir's School Gym in **Posen**, for children and adults. For more information, call 989/733-2559.

**Driver's Refresher Course**, sponsored by AARP **September 12-13** at the Hillsdale County Senior Center in **Hillsdale** for drivers age 50 and older. For more information, call toll-free 800/479-3348 or 517/437-2422.

**39th Annual UP Senior Convention and Expo**, sponsored by the UP Area Agency on Aging, AARP and the Dickinson County Health Care System **September 20** in the Ruth Butler Building at the UP State Fairgrounds in **Escanaba**. For more information, call toll-free 800/338-1119.

**Nonprofit Day 2007: Looking into the Crystal Ball – Where Do We Go From Here?** the 8th annual Nonprofit Day sponsored by the Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA) **September 26** at the Lansing Center in **Lansing**. For more information, call 517/492-2400 or e-mail [aking@mnaonline.org](mailto:aking@mnaonline.org).

**Dealing with Challenging Behaviors in People with Dementia**, presented by the Health and Human Services Department at Lansing Community College (LCC) **October 5** at LCC in **Lansing** as part of its Fall Semester 2007 Gerontology Seminars. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail [beham@lcc.edu](mailto:beham@lcc.edu).

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Interdisciplinary Conference on Law, Aging and Disability: Reeling in the Years**, sponsored by the Elder Law and Disability Rights Section of the State Bar of Michigan **October 10-12** at Crystal Mountain Resort in **Thompsonville**. For more information or to suggest topics, call 517/373-3697 or e-mail [tennisplayer55@netzero.net](mailto:tennisplayer55@netzero.net).

**MDSA Fall Conference: Facing Challenges, Accepting Changes**, sponsored by the Michigan Directors of Services to the Aging (MDSA) **October 11-12** at Little River Casino in **Manistee**. For more information, call 810/987-8811 or e-mail

[lnewsome@arenet.net](mailto:lnewsome@arenet.net).

**Helping People Find their Voices: Working with a Range of Communications Abilities**, presented by the Health and Human Services Department at Lansing Community College (LCC) **November 2** at LCC in **Lansing** as part of its Fall Semester 2007 Gerontology Seminars. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail [beham@lcc.edu](mailto:beham@lcc.edu).

**“United We Stand” Senior Leader’s Paving the Way!** the 2007 annual conference of the Michigan Association of Senior Centers (MASC) **November 7-9** at Crystal Mountain in **Thompsonville**. For more information, go to [www.evergreencommons.org](http://www.evergreencommons.org) or call 616/355-5151.

**Helping Clients to Grieve and Heal**, a seminar with CEUs for social workers sponsored by Clinical Training and Ann Arbor Consultation Services **November 13** at the Holiday Inn Select in **Grand Rapids** and **November 14** in **Farmington Hills**. For more information, go to [www.clinicaltrainingceus.com](http://www.clinicaltrainingceus.com) or call 734/996-9111, ext. 235.

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for Health Care Professionals Engaged in Case Management**, the 2007 Case Management Conference entitled “Creating Safer Care” and sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) College of Nursing in collaboration with the MSU School of Social Work **November 15** at the MSU Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in **East Lansing**. For more information call 517/355-8539 or e-mail [kessle24@msu.edu](mailto:kessle24@msu.edu).

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## MICHIGAN CONFERENCES

**Safe, Sound and Secure Conference**, sponsored by the Macomb County Department of Senior Citizen Services **August 15** at the Warren Community Center in **Warren** to learn about current trends and crime issues. For more information, call 586/469-6307.

**Older Adult Retreat**, sponsored by the Older Adult Committee of the United Methodist Church **September 10-13** at the Wesley Woods Campground in **Dowling** to offer older adults, age 60 and older, opportunities to learn, enjoy crafts, swimming, canoeing, campfire singing, good food and comfortable lodging. For more information, call 517/833-4988 or e-mail [gschleicher@cablespeed.com](mailto:gschleicher@cablespeed.com).

**17<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Advisory Council Conference and Claude Pepper Awards**, entitled “Seniors Seize the Day: Living a Healthy and Happy Life” and sponsored by Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan (BC/BS) **September 14** at the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort in **Mt. Pleasant**. For more information, call toll-free 800/733-2583. See also “BC/BS Requests Nominations for 2007 Claude Pepper Awards” in the AGING NETWORK NEWS/ACTIVITIES section of this issue (above).

**Senior EmPower Day 2007**, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan (AAA) and County Councils/Commissions on Aging (CoA) in Northwest Michigan **September 28** at the Waterfront Conference Center in **Traverse City**. For more information, call the AAA toll-free 800/442-1713.

**12<sup>th</sup> Annual Edna Gates Conference on Dementia Care** and the **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Lillian &**



**James Portman Conference Celebrating Direct Care Workers**, sponsored by Optimal Life Designs in Dementia Care **November 5-6** at the Marriott Hotel in **Troy** to discuss areas of care, innovation and research. For more information, call 810/231-2723 or e-mail [annerobinson2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annerobinson2@sbcglobal.net).

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## **MICHIGAN NONPROFIT EDUCATION/TRAINING SEMINARS**

**3-Part Alzheimer's Education Series**, seminars sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association Greater Michigan Chapter West Michigan Region with financial assistance from the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (AAA-8) from **August 2, 9 and 16** at Spectrum Health Healthier Communities in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, call 616/459-4558 or toll-free 800/272-3900.

**Financial Fitness/Credit Education Workshop**, sponsored by the Northern Homes Community Development Corporation **August 7, 14 and 21** at the Bellaire Senior Center in **Bellaire** to discuss how to budget money, improve credit scores, pay-off debts and become a better informed consumer. For more information or to register, call toll-free 866/637-1934.

**Falls and Fall Prevention, and Providing Care for Individuals with Dementia**, sponsored by the Gerontology Network as part of its 2007 Professional Series on Caring for Individuals with Dementia **September 7** at the Howard Miller Library in **Zeeland**. For more information or to register, call 616/771-9710 or 888/243-3144, ext. 710.

**Dealing with Grief & Loss in Individuals with Dementia, and Working with Families of Individuals with Dementia**, sponsored by the Gerontology Network, as part of its 2007 Professional Series on Caring for Individuals with Dementia, **September 14** at the DeVos Family Center for Scouting in **Grand Rapids** and **September 21** at the Kettunen Center in **Tustin**. For more information or to register, call 616/771-9710 or 888/243-3144, ext. 710.

**CEO 601: Advanced Leadership for Nonprofit Executives**, sponsored by the Johnson Center for Philanthropy, and supported by the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation **October 17-19** at the Shanty Creek Resort in **Bellaire** for experienced nonprofit CEOs to enhance their leadership skills and explore areas for personal growth and renewal. For more information, call 616/331-7031 or e-mail [krehaj@gvsu.edu](mailto:krehaj@gvsu.edu).

**Home Sweet Home: Current & Future Housing Options for Michigan Seniors**, a luncheon forum sponsored by the Michigan Society of Gerontology (MSG) **November 7** at the Michigan State University (MSU) Kellogg Center in **East Lansing** to discuss senior housing issues and livable communities. For more information, go to [www.msginfo.org](http://www.msginfo.org) or e-mail [info@msginfo.org](mailto:info@msginfo.org).

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## **OTHER MICHIGAN EVENTS/MEETINGS**

**Annual Golf Outing**, sponsored by the Isabella County Commission on Aging (CoA) and Friends of Isabella Seniors **August 3** at the Pleasant Hills Golf Club in **Mt.**

**Pleasant**, featuring food, raffle, silent auction, and a chance at a \$10,000.00 Hole-in-One sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, with all proceeds going for CoA programs and services. For more information, call 989/772-0748.

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## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

### **AAA-3B to Hire New Planning Director**

The Region 3-B Area Agency on Aging (AAA-3B) is looking for a new Director of Planning and Project Development. Located at the Burnham Brook Center in Battle Creek, the AAA covers Barry and Calhoun Counties.

This position is responsible for day-to-day operations of the AAA, including all programs directly administered by the agency. It is part of the AAA Executive Management Team, and acts under the policy direction of agency's board of directors. It also provides coordination for Southwest Michigan Long Term Care Connection activities, and serves as liaison with the Calhoun County Office of Senior Services.

The deadline for applying is **August 10**. Minimum job requirements include a four-year degree, or equivalent experience working in a human service agency or health services administration. For more information, call 269/966-2450. Send resume to **Denise McGee** at the AAA (200 W. Michigan Avenue, Suite 100, Battle Creek, 49017) or e-mail [dmc@burnhambrook.com](mailto:dmc@burnhambrook.com).

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## **LEGISLATION UPDATE**

OSA is providing the following update on legislative actions for information only. OSA is not supporting or endorsing any legislation discussed below. Readers wishing more information about the content, legislative history or current status of a particular bill can access the information at [www.legislature.mi.us](http://www.legislature.mi.us). Simply enter the bill number in the box under "Legislative Bill Search." If you have any questions or an opinion about a bill, please contact your state legislator.

### **House Bill 4284 of 2007**

This bill would amend the Social Welfare Act, which deals with the Medicaid program, to allow Medicaid-eligible individuals to receive services related to care (assisted living) provided in an adult foster care facility licensed under the Adult Foster Care Facility Licensing Act. The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) would be required to seek a waiver from the US Department of Health and Human Services to provide adult foster care-related services. Amends Public Act 280 of 1939. Sponsored by **Rep. Richard Ball** (R-Bennington Township), it was discharged from the House Committee on Families and Children's Services, and placed on second reading 5-25-07.

### **House Bill 4344 of 2007**

This bill proposes major budget changes from fiscal year (FY) 2006-2007 year-to-date appropriations for the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), including \$2.7 million for the Office of Long Term Care Supports and Services, and an expansion of MIChoice by increasing the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services waiver

line by \$30.0 million gross to support expansion and increased cost per case of this program. Creates a new act. Sponsored by **Rep. Gary McDowell** (D-Rudyard), it passed the House and Senate and was given immediate effect 6-28-07.

#### **House Bills 4515, 4516, 4517, 4518, 4519 and 4520 of 2007**

A package of six bills to protect against identity theft by requiring the redaction of Social Security numbers from various documents and public records including deeds, mortgages and real estate records. Sponsored by **Rep. Barb Byrum** (D-Onondaga), these bills passed the House 5-29-07, and have been sent to the Senate.

#### **House Bill 4735 of 2007**

This bill would amend the Foster Care and Adoption Services Act to require a supervising agency, before determining the placement of a child, to give special consideration and preference to the child's relatives, such as grandparents. Amends Public Act 203 of 1994. Sponsored by **Rep. Gino Polidori** (D-Dearborn), this bill passed the House 6-19-07, and has been sent to the Senate.

#### **Senate Bills 298, 299, 300, 301, 302 and 303 of 2007**

A package of six bills to protect against identity theft by requiring the redaction of Social Security numbers from various documents and public records including deeds, mortgages and real estate records. Sponsored by **Sen. Mark Jansen** (R-Gaines Township), **Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom** (R-Norton Shores), **Sen. Tony Stamas** (R-Midland), **Sen. John Pappageorge** (R-Troy), **Sen. Mark Jansen** (R-Gaines Township) and **Sen. Patricia Birkholz** (R-Saugatuck), these bills passed the Senate 5-17-07, and have been sent to the House.

#### **Senate Bill 340 of 2007**

This bill would create the Consumer Credit Protection Act to require a consumer reporting agency to place a security freeze on the credit reports of the following consumers beginning 9-d1-08: a victim of identity theft, if that person submitted an electronic or written request to the agency, and included a copy of a police report alleging that he or she had been a victim of identify theft; and a person who is at least 65 years old, if he or she submitted an electronic or written request to the agency. Creates a new act. Sponsored by **Sen. Cameron Brown** (R-Sturgis), it passed the Senate 5-23-07, and has been sent to the House.

#### **Senate Bill 525 of 2007**

This bill would amend the Public Health Code to require the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) to create and operate a website containing price information on prescription drugs, and require the MDCH to establish and maintain a toll-free telephone number for information on prescription drug programs available in the state. Amends Public Act 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Sen. Roger Kahn** (R-Saginaw Township). A substitute bill was passed by the Senate Committee on Health Policy and sent to the Senate floor 7-10-07.

#### **House Bill 4493 of 2007**

##### **Public Act 41 of 2007**

This is a multi-departmental supplemental appropriations bill for fiscal year (FY) 2006-2007. The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) budget is included. Among the items addressed in the bill, the MIChoice line item received funds through a transfer from the nursing home line item. Creates a new act. Sponsored by **Rep. George Cushingberry** (D-Detroit), it was approved by **Gov. Jennifer Granholm** 7-12-

07, and assigned PA 41 of 2007 with immediate effect.

### **Committees**

The House Committee on Senior Health, Security and Retirement, Chaired by **Rep. Robert Jones** (D-Kalamazoo) held a July 17 legislative hearing on “Baby Boomers.” OSA Director **Sharon Gire** led the panel, testifying about OSA’s initiatives to address four key boomer issues: economic security, health, community and caregiving. Other panelists included **Michael Head**, Director of the Michigan Office of Long Term Care Supports and Services, and **Andrew Farmer**, AARP Associate State Director for Health and Supportive Services.

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### **ABOUT RESOURCES FOR AGING**

**Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor**  
**Sharon L. Gire, OSA Director**  
**Jerutha Kennedy, CSA Chairperson**

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